

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE**

SEPTEMBER 6, 2005

Hurricane Katrina's winds brought substantial damage to Louisiana and Mississippi, but the flooding in New Orleans is a horrific problem. The rescue efforts themselves are a national disgrace, but the long-term effects are not just to be found in displaced persons. The floodwaters are creating a public health problem, both catastrophic and long lasting. The mix of human bodies, sewage, decaying animals and vermin, and toxic chemicals will create contamination, leading to severe obstacles to rebuilding and re-populating the city, once the water is pumped out. The Public Health implications of this for the population of New Orleans are immense.

Our Public Health staff has expertise that could help with the efforts, both now and as the city is re-built.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT** the Board of Supervisors:

Instruct the Director of Public Health and Health Officer to provide a report at the September 13, 2005 Board meeting concerning the public health implications of this disaster and to provide recommendations on any ways in which Los Angeles County could assist with the public health aspects of the recovery and re-building.

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YBB:PM:slw:patmotions/hurricanekatrina

**MOTION**

BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
MOLINA	_____